

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 057178  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 CPR-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00  
INSE-00 NSAE-00 L-03 EB-08 COME-00 /027 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JPLYLE:LB  
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM  
SCA/VO:LDEWITT

-----151726Z 042305 /43

P 151639Z MAR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA, TC

SUBJECT: VISA RECIPROCITY

REFERENCES: (A) 76 ABU DHABI 264

1. UAE WASHINGTON CHARGE SAEED AL-SHAMSI CALLED AT ARP ON QUESTION OF VISA RECIPROCITY. AL-SHAMSI REFERRED TO VISA RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT (REFTEL A) BETWEEN EMBASSY OFFICERS AND UAE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS INCLUDING AL-SHAMSI HIMSELF. HE SAID ELEMENTS OF AGREEMENT WERE THAT UAE WASHINGTON EMBASSY WOULD ISSUE MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS OF ONE YEAR'S DURATION TO U.S. BUSINESSMEN IN RETURN FOR RECIPROCAL TREATMENT BY EMBASSY ABU DHABI FOR UAE BUSINESSMEN AND STUDENTS.

2. AL-SHAMSI SAID THAT UAE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD SENT HIM TELEXES REPORTING COMPLAINTS OF U.S. EMBASSY ABU DHABI OVER UAE PERFORMANCE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT. ACCORDING TO AL-

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SHAMSI, UAE WASHINGTON EMBASSY WAS IN FACT LIVING UP TO THE AGREEMENT. AL-SHAMSI SAID EMBASSY COMPLAINTS ABOUT UAE'S PERFORMANCE UNDER THE AGREEMENT MIGHT BE TRACEABLE TO MISUNDERSTANDING OF UAE VISA ISSUANCE PROCEDURES. UAE EMBASSY WASHINGTON OFFERS SINGLE AND MULTIPLE ENTRY BUSINESS VISAS AT DIFFERENT COSTS. ACCORDING TO AL-SHAMSI, IF

U.S. BUSINESSMEN REQUEST MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS AND PAY THE APPROPRIATE FEE, THEY ARE ISSUED MULTIPLE ENTRY ONE-YEAR VISAS.

3. DEPARTMENT RECORDS OF FEES, DURATION AND OTHER PARTICULARS OF UAE VISA ISSUANCE POLICY LONG OUT OF DATE. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENTS ON UAE CHARGE'S STATEMENTS AS WELL AS REPORT OF UAE VISA ISSUANCE POLICY FOR U.S. PASS-PORTS FROM UAE FOREIGN MINISTRY PERSPECTIVE. (FYI: ARP HAS RECEIVED FREQUENT COMPLAINTS FROM U.S. BUSINESSMEN ABOUT UAE WASHINGTON EMBASSY'S DILATORY AND INEFFICIENT VISA ISSUANCE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES. END FYI.)  
VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Event:**  
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**Reference:** 76 ABU DHABI 264  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009